

My name is Michael Carrington, and I am a voter from Southbury. Passing both S.B. 184 and H.B. 5262 (Continuing Absentee Voting in 2022 due to COVID19) is extremely important to me because while some are choosing to move on, COVID remains a crisis for many of us, particularly for those with young children who cannot be vaccinated and other immunocompromised loved ones. Nobody should not have to choose between voting and safety – we have the means to do both. Individuals have the freedom to wear masks and refrain from in-person activities, so why should anyone be forced to gather in crowded voting areas?

I believe that all voters should be able to vote this year by absentee ballot as COVID19 persists. Please continue the COVID19 safety measures for the past two years. The absentee ballot system has worked perfectly well for decades and expanding it for COVID was simple common sense. While some self-serving politicians have raised the empty specter of voter fraud, those people are charlatans with no evidence to back up such fearmongering.

Moreover, nobody knows what the COVID situation will be this November in terms of virus variants, etc. I'd feel much better knowing that my wife and I had the absentee option. The time to ensure that access is now, not when it's too late.

More than 650,000 Connecticut voters voted by absentee ballot in the 2020 CT General Election—which means they voted early on their own schedules. This led to record breaking 80% voter turnout. Listen to the voters, the choice is clear. Please protect the freedom to vote and pass S.B. 184 and H.B. 5262. Thank you

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